

Flight of Witnesses Prevents Indictment of Baff Assassins

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WILSON'S PROTEST ON SHIP HOLD-UP DISCUSSED BY THE ENGLISH CABINET

BAFF INQUIRY COLLAPSES WHEN WITNESS TRIO FLEE STATE; NO INDICTMENTS

Moral but Not Legal Proof of Gunmen's Identity, Says Whitman.

MAY KEEP UP FIGHT.

Two Men Wanted Are in New Jersey and One in Philadelphia.

Startling and apparently almost hopeless collapse of the Baff prosecution on the day of promised indictments came at 1 o'clock to-day when, with the adjournment of the Grand Jury for the day, District Attorney Whitman announced that no indictments would be found to-day, though "ultimately" there might be.

The District Attorney, whose fondest hope was to clear up the Baff mystery before being sworn in as Governor, attributed the defeat of his plans and the present positive stop given the prosecution of justice to the wilful absence from New York jurisdiction of three crucial witnesses.

Two of these were now living in New Jersey, he said, and one in Philadelphia. They were remaining away from New York on the evident advice of counsel and showed no disposition to come to this side of the Hudson voluntarily.

Whitman regretfully admitted that in the present status of the case, though the identification of the gunmen now in custody was morally certain, it was not legal proof and would not stand up under the assaults of defending lawyers.

Without the identification of the gunmen made absolute, indictments against others for complicity in the conspiracy which resulted in Baff's assassination on Nov. 24 would not have the legal strength the District Attorney desired.

Whitman made it plainly understood that rather than leave the legacy of a doubtful case to Mr. Perkins, his successor, by hasty and unconsidered action, he had sacrificed his ambition to secure indictments before leaving office.

There is no doubt in the minds of the District Attorney and his aides that the three missing witnesses have full knowledge of the intricate murder plot and its execution.

If Perkins and DeLahanty are able

(Continued on Second Page.)

The Flight of Time

But a short span of weeks ago we were welcoming in the "New Year"—1914.

In but a few days she will be buried in the dusty pages of history.

We may gaze upon a beautiful landscape. But turn our backs and the vision is gone for all time.

And so fleet the opportunities to work, hire, buy, sell, rent, invest, &c., disclosed from day to day through the "Want" pages of

The Evening World

World ads. are fair to see, interesting to read and highly profitable to act upon. But the passing of time quickly robs us of the advantages they offer if DELAY intervenes.

Read World ads. during the New Year, take them into your daily life, and the fruits they yield will remain with you for time to come.

GIRL'S AUTO DIVES AMONG SHOPPERS; TWO WOMEN HURT

Runaway Machine Climbs to Sidewalk and Crashes Into Window.

A wild auto with a helpless woman in its tonneau climbed the sidewalk at Hanover Place and Fulton Street in the midst of a shopping crowd this afternoon, pinned a woman against the side of a building in its flight and plunged through heavy plate glass into the Sterling Piano Company's show room. What with the coming of two ambulances and the ensuing excitement car lines were blocked and police reserves had to be called to clear the street.

The automobile, which was the property of Henry Wolium, of Ocean Parkway and Elmwood Avenue, was being driven by Miss Lottie Wolium and her mother was in the rear seat. Passing eastward up Fulton Street, the car stalled at the Hanover Place corner. Miss Wolium got out to crank it, but neglected to put on her brakes. The minute the spark caught the car leaped forward.

The girl managed to dodge aside as her mother screamed a warning, but the elder woman in the tonneau did not dare risk jumping. The wild car careened zig-zag fashion across the street toward the Sterling Piano Company's store, pedestrians scattering madly from its path. Just as the car collided with the low frame of the show-room, between the window and the sidewalk, a woman, about fifty years old, was caught and crushed.

Glass showered down on her as the hood of the machine crashed through the show window and she was pinned beneath the radiator. Her name, as nearly as the hospital attendants could get it later, was Mrs. Adeline Smith and her residence No. 891 Amsterdam Avenue, Manhattan.

Two sisters, the Misses Irene and Grace Fahy, whose home is in Flatbush, found themselves in the flying car's path. Grace managed to leap to one side, but her efforts to pull her sister out of harm's way were vain. Irene received severe cuts about the head and shoulders from falling glass and was considerably bruised.

Ambulances from Brooklyn and Holy Family Hospital brought Drs. Brown and Casagrande and Dr. Curtis. They removed the two injured women into the piano store and there gave them first aid. Mrs. Smith was taken to Brooklyn Hospital, where the surgeons discovered evidence of a fractured skull. Miss Fahy went to her home after her cuts had been patched up.

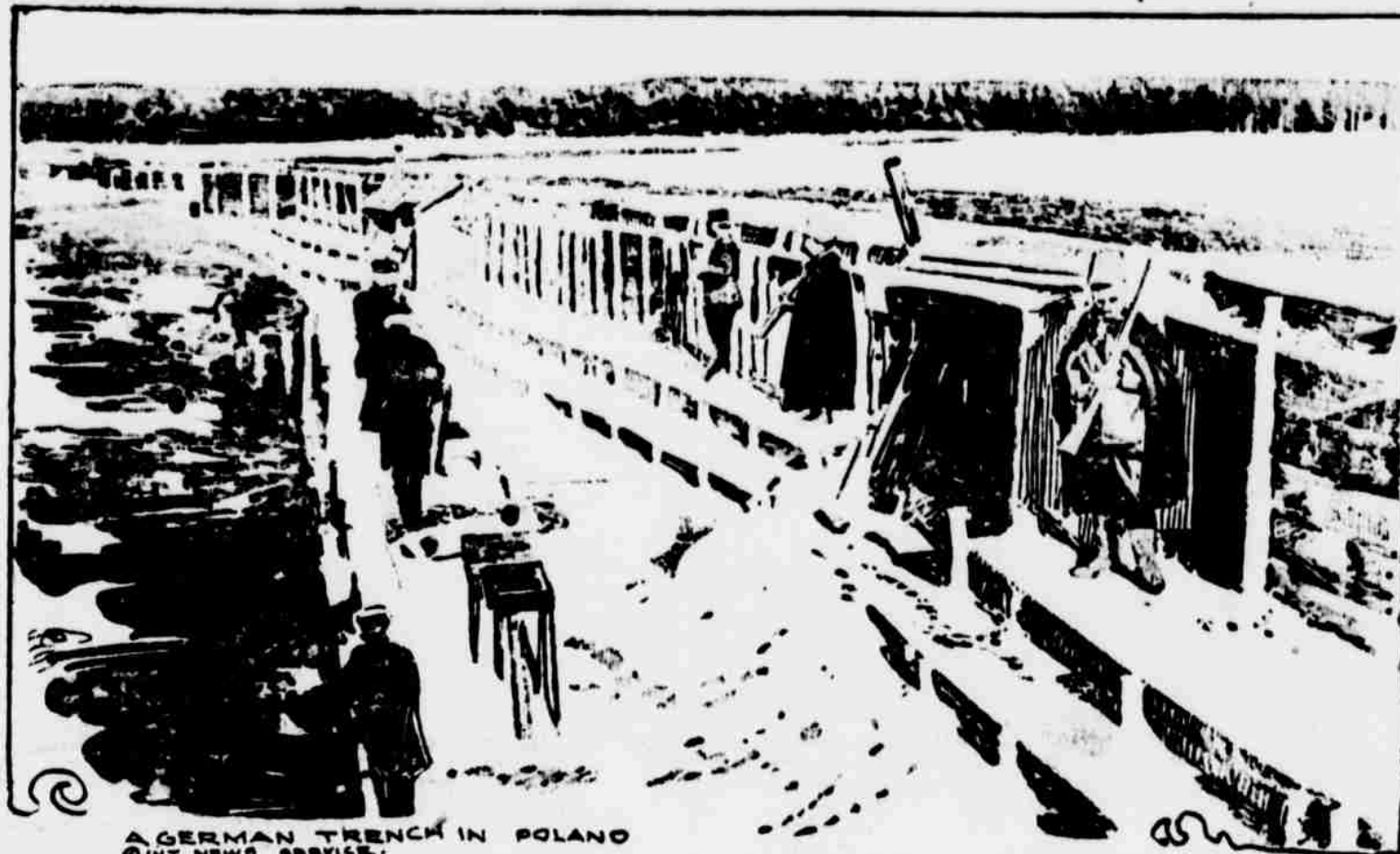
ALARM CLOCK FOR WILSON.

Given So He Can Awaken at 8 A. M.

Jan. 1 to Open San Diego Fair.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—That he might not fail to awaken on time to press the button opening the San Diego Exposition on Jan. 1, President Wilson was to-day given a handsome sterling silver alarm clock. Owing to the difference in time the President will have to get up at 8 A. M.

GERMAN TRENCHES AND DEFENCES AFTER SNOWSTORM



A GERMAN TRENCH IN POLAND
© INT. NEWS SERVICE.

MITCHELL TELLS WHITMAN OF CITY'S NEEDS IN LAWS

Mayor and Governor-Elect Hold Two-Hour Conference That Is "Satisfactory."

Gov.-elect Whitman had to split seconds of time to-day as between his present job of District Attorney and his prospective duties as Chief Executive of the State. It was his last official day in New York County, and it was the busiest one of his career.

Mayor Mitchell took up two hours of his time in the morning discussing the City's needs in legislation and State administrative support. Finishing that, Mr. Whitman plunged into work at the District Attorney's office, went before the Grand Jury which is considering the Baff murder case and in the afternoon cleared up all the formalities of turning over the office to his successor.

He received and accepted the resignations of two Assistant District Attorneys, who are to move into higher places on Jan. 1. These were Charles A. Perkins, who will be appointed District Attorney and William Hayward, who will become legal adviser to the Governor.

Mr. Whitman is going to Albany sometime to-morrow afternoon, but just what train he can get depends on the pressure of business.

Mayor Mitchell and Gov.-elect Whitman had a lengthy conference to-day on a programme of legislation for New York City, which is to be mapped out for presentation at Albany at the coming session. The conference took place at No. 37 Madison Avenue, the home of Mr. Whitman.

The bills explained to the Governor-elect by the Mayor, and every one of which Mr. Mitchell is very anxious to have passed, are for:

The abolition of the Board of Commissioners in New York City.

A Brooklyn Terminal Railway.

Final disposition of garbage.

The creation of a Department of Administration by merging of the

Commissioner of Accounts and Chamberlain's offices.

Terminal markets.

Excess condemnation of land.

Police reorganizations.

Central Purchasing Bureau.

When the Mayor got back to the City Hall he was asked how he had impressed the Governor-elect with his programme of legislation.

"I had a pleasant and satisfactory interview," replied the Mayor, carefully weighing his words.

Military Pump and Ceremony at Inauguration.

ALBANY, Dec. 30.—Military pump and splendor will mark the inauguration of Charles S. Whitman as New York's forty-fourth Governor here Friday.

The ceremonies will begin to-morrow night with the inaugural ball, which will be one of the most brilliant affairs of its kind in recent years. The inaugural parade has been planned down to the last detail. Both the retiring Governor and the incoming official will be attended by their military staffs in full regalia and a score of companies of the National Guard.

The Assembly Room has been refurnished and the speaker's rostrum surrounded by a platform on which the ceremonies will take place.

At the Executive Mansion Mrs. Whitman has already taken charge. She arrived late yesterday. The two old servants, a housekeeper and a butler who have seen Administration follow Administration welcomed her to her new home.

NAVARRA, an Admiralty Vessel, Going to Places Off Nova Scotia— Fate of Crew Not Known.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 30.—The steamer Navarra, 2,947 tons, which left St. John, N. B., yesterday under charter to the Admiralty and bound for France, struck on a reef at Holmes Island during the night and was reported this afternoon to be breaking up. No word had been received as to safety of her crew.

Holmes Island is off the coast of Nova Scotia, near the village of Yarmouth.

The Navarra's plight was reported to the Marine and Fisheries Agency of the Dominion Government there. The Government steamer Aberdeen was ordered to proceed from Yarmouth to the Navarra's aid.

It was reported, however, that the Navarra was carrying hay and feed.

For Racing See Sporting Page.

Are You Going South?

Florida, California and other sunny spots are now being advertised by the World.

REVEAL REVEAL REVEAL! The World is now revealing the secrets of the South.

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WHICH MRS. ROGERS GAVE FATAL POISON TO TWO CHILDREN?

Police Mystified About Domestic Relations of Husband in Poison Tragedy.

Owing to the distraction from grief of Loris Elton Rogers, a Park Row lawyer, after the death of his eight-months-old daughter, Loretta, at the Lebanon Hospital to-day of bichloride of mercury poisoning, the authorities of the Bronx were thrown into confusion as to the domestic relations of Mr. Rogers.

"One of the children," he said, "got hold of the poison, took a little of it and gave it to the other. Mrs. Rogers, believing they were going to die before her eyes, took a dose of the poison in desperation."

From the moment the woman and children were taken to the hospital Dr. Greenberg of the house staff has worked over them with two nurses. He said to-day that he had not resorted to any of the extraordinary means for combating bichloride poisoning, such as a knife operation, but had applied the regular method of trying to flush the poison out of the system before it paralyzed the organs. All three patients had spent a restless night, he said, and from the start there had been no hope for the baby girl. There is little more, according to the physician, for the mother and boy.

The Cunard liner Lusitania, the last of the super-ships of the Mauretania-Vaterland type still on the ocean, sailed for Liverpool to-day to complete the last leg of the most expensive voyage ever undertaken by an Atlantic passenger ship. She was insured for an additional million dollars before leaving England, the extra insurance to cover only one round trip. The premium amounted to \$40,000.

Because of the recent exposure of a plot in New Orleans to place bombs in the mud of a French line ship extra precautions were taken by the line to insure against anything explosive being taken aboard the Lusitania. A squad of special detectives accompanied every person who went on either gangway, and nobody who did not give a clear account of himself was allowed to board the big steamer.

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COSSACKS ARE DRIVEN TO PRUSSIAN BORDER, REPORT FROM BERLIN

German War Office Disputes the Claims of Petrograd and Declares That Kaiser's Troops Are Still on the Offensive in Poland.

GAINS AT MANY POINTS REPORTED FROM PARIS

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A special meeting of the British Cabinet was held this afternoon to discuss the American protest against the hold up of American ships.

A discussion of the note by British officials shows that they regard it as friendly and they do not believe the differences between America and Great Britain are such that cannot be reconciled satisfactorily.

Much depends upon the effective effort on the part of Denmark, Holland, Norway and Sweden to prevent the re-shipment to Germany and Austria-Hungary of cargoes received from the United States. Until water-tight regulations are put into force in these countries, little hope, it is understood, is held out by the British Government for relaxation in the matter of searching American cargoes.

One prominent British official pointed out that Italy has effectively checked contraband shipments to Austria-Hungary and Germany, with the result that Great Britain is not stopping ships destined for Italian ports.

Sir Edward Grey came back from his holiday vacation to handle the matter. He went from the train to the Foreign Office. When he entered the Cabinet meeting he took with him the American note and the reports already compiled by his assistants answering the various points raised by the United States.

Inasmuch as the American position is based on the interpretation of international law made by the legal experts of the State Department at Washington, it was not believed that the protest can easily be disposed of. On a few of the points raised there is a wide difference of opinion among experts, and this may cause long negotiations with the United States.

Certain of the members of the Cabinet take the position that there are no precedents that operate in the present case. They hold that the United States cannot enforce its protests where the British Government is in possession of positive information that cargoes of conditional contraband are intended finally to reach Germany and Austria, even though those cargoes are in neutral bottoms and consigned to neutral firms in neutral countries. This is especially the case in the various cargoes of meat stuffs which have been seized and which are claimed to be owned by the big American packing firms.

East Prussia Nearly Cleared of Russian Cavalry, Says Berlin

BERLIN, by wireless to London, Dec. 30 (Associated Press).—The War Office report to-day on the progress of the war on the eastern front is as follows:

"In East Prussia the Russian cavalry was driven back in the direction of Pilsken (four miles from the Russian frontier and south of the Niemen River).

"In Poland: On the right bank of the Vistula the situation remains unchanged.

"On the western bank of the Vistula the offensive to the east of the tributary Bzura continues. For the rest fighting on and to the east of the Bzura branch continues as well as at Inowidz and in the region to the southwest of this place.

"Reports from outside sources give the impression that Lowicz and Skierniewice are not in our possession. We captured these places more than six days ago. Skierniewice is situated far behind our front."

[The above statement is in contradiction of a Russian report that these two towns had been captured.]

Gains in Flanders and in Alsace, Says the War Office in Paris

PARIS, Dec. 30 (Associated Press).—France claims slight gains near Neuport in the official announcement given out by the War Department this afternoon. This communication also mentions other gains along the line where German attacks have been repulsed. There has been heavy